

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, before line 3, insert the following section heading:

Field of the Invention

Page 1, before line 6, insert the following section heading:

Background of the Invention

Page 1, before line 31, insert the following section heading:

Summary of the Invention

Page 1, line 31 to page 2, line 4, please amend as follows:

The present invention relates to a method ~~according to claim 1~~ for excluding entry of debris into the outer seal of the sealing system of a shaft passing through the hull of a maritime vessel. The invention also relates to a device ~~according to claim 2~~ for implementing the method.

Page 2, before line 30, insert the following section heading:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Page 3, before line 15, insert the following section heading:

Detailed Description of the Invention